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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-167

The AMSAT News Service bulletins are a free, weekly news and information service of AMSAT North America, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS publishes news related to Amateur Radio in Space including reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

The news feed on http://www.amsat.org publishes news of Amateur Radio in Space as soon as our volunteers can post it.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to:
ans-editor at amsat.org.

In this edition:

* HAM Video for the ISS Announced by ARISS
* AMSAT Videos from Dayton Hamvention
* AMSAT Area Coordinator Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, now SK
* RECENT AMSAT AWARDS
* Fox-2 MPPT Team Selected In TI Design Contest
* AMSAT Field Day 2013 - One More Time
* Wilse Morgan WX7P (ex-KL7CQ) SK
* ARISS News
* Satellite Shorts From All Over

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ANS-167 AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 167.01
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
DATE June 16, 2013
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-167.01

HAM Video for the ISS Announced by ARISS

ARISS-Europe Chairman Gaston Bertels, ON4WF has drafted an overview of a new "Ham Video" DATV downlink system on S-Band being developed for placement on the International Space Station later this year.
The equipment is being developed by Kayser Italia under contract with the European Space Agency using a Canon XF-305 camera provided by NASA. The equipment is currently slated for deployment to the ISS on Japan Space Agency's HTV-4 in August 2013. HTV is Japan's H-II Transfer Vehicle for resupplying the International Space Station.

Gaston's paper provides an overview of both the equipment that is being placed on the ISS as well as discusses ground station requirements. The ESA contract calls for Kayser Italia to provide five

ground stations for placement in Europe that will be "chained" to provide overlapping video reception
coverage, with the British Amateur Television Club (BATC) serving as a central server site for
receiving video from these ground stations and making it freely available to others via the internet.
It is hoped that amateurs will support other ground station "chains" in other countries as multiple
stations are needed to provide up to 15 minutes of video in support of school contacts.

Gaston's paper with block diagram and photographs of key components will be available soon on the
AMSAT website (www.amsat.org).

[ANS thanks ANS thanks Gaston Bartels, ON4WF for this information for the above information]

AMSAT Videos from Dayton Hamvention

A series of videos taken during the AMSAT Forum during The Dayton Hamvention have been released.

+ AMSAT ARISS Program Status, by Frank KA3HDO - 2013 Dayton Hamvention
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hju20svHK5k

+ AMSAT Education and You, by Mark N8MH - 2013 Dayton Hamvention
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXzCRiNaTXw&feature=youtu.be

+ AMSAT Status Report, by Barry WD4ASW - 2013 Dayton Hamvention
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGj5_wjomzI&feature=youtu.be

+ FUNcube Satellites, by Howard G6LVB - 2013 Dayton Hamvention
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NSD39MNKe0&feature=youtu.be

+ Fox Classroom Experiments, by Spence WA8SME - 2013 Dayton Hamvent
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kl8HCBEGv4Q

+ Fox-1 Status Update, by Tony AA2TX - 2013 Dayton Hamvention
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gub5182mowg

You can view these videos, collectively, and lots of other AMSAT video content by going to:

www.amsat.org and click on "AMSAT YOUTUBE CHANNEL"
or by going to www.youtube.com/AMSATNA

[ANS thanks AMSAT Steve N9IPand Andrew KO4MA,for the above information]

AMSAT Area Coordinator Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, now SK

Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, age 59, passed away suddenly Monday night, 10 June. He had successfully battled a blood disorder for several years, but was stricken Monday morning.

Kevin was an AMSAT Area Coordinator for many years and co-chaired the team that hosted the 2007 AMSAT Symposium in Pittsburgh, PA. Prior to that, he was a key player in executing an ARISS contact from Upper St. Clair (PA) High School. An enthusiastic member of the Wireless Association of the South Hills (WASH) local club, Kevin was always upbeat and positive, and looked forward to the satellite contacts at Field Day, even after the loss of AO-13 and AO-40, and to VHF/UHF operating. He worked hard at the easy contacts, developing ingenious lightweight hand-held antennas and means of controlling two radios to make it all work for the one satellite contact. He moved on to the microwaves, building a 10 GHz kit when he could have bought the completed DownEast Microwave transverter, and was working on one of the W1GHZ transverters for 2.4 GHz. A few weekends ago, several WASH members did some work on his VHF/UHF antennas, and Kevin was looking forward to the VHF contest this past weekend. `He is known to have made at least one 2-meter QSO.

Kevin is survived by his wife Peg, married son, Michael, and married daughter, Jen. His obituary may be found at,
http://obituaries.triblive.com/listing/226203/Kevin-Smith/
In lieu of flowers, Kevin's family suggests memorial donations be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the MDS Foundation, or to Be the Match.

[ANS thanks Jim Sanford, WB4GCS for the above information.]

RECENT AMSAT AWARDS

Here is our latest induction into some of the AMSAT awards community. There is a pretty good batch since the last report in April.

The following have entered into the Satellite Communicators Club for making their first satellite QSO.
Jim Whitfield, K5JAW

The following have earned the AMSAT Communications Achievement Award.
Alessio Vacondio, IK4IDY, #555

The following have earned the South Africa Satellite Communications Achievement Award.
Joseph Fouquet, N5JF, #US185

The following have earned the AMSAT Sexagesimal Award.
George Carr, WA5KBH, #163
Zeljko Ulip, 9A2EY, #164
Alessio Vacondio, IK4IDY, #165

The following have earned the AMSAT W4AMI Award.
Alessio Vacondio, IK4IDY, #80

The following have earned the AMSAT W4AMI 5000 Award.
Doug Papay, KD8CAO, #30

[ANS thanks Bruce, KK5DO, for the above information]

Fox-2 MPPT Team Selected In TI Design Contest

AMSAT sponsored a senior design project at the Rochester Institute
of Technology this academic year.
The students included senior EE majors:
Bryce Salmi KB1LQC
Brent Salmi KB1LQD
Ian MacKenzie KB3OCF
and Dan Corriero.

The project was to develop an MPPT circuit that could be used on a
future Fox-2 (3U) CubeSat. The students completed a working prototype
which was on display in our engineering booth at Dayton last month.

With my agreement and encouragement, the students entered this
project into Texas Instruments' 2013 Analog Design Contest for
university students.
See: http://tinyurl.com/mf6nzhr

I am happy to pass along the great news that the AMSAT MPPT project
was selected as one of the top 10 semi-finalists and the students
were invited on an all-expenses paid trip to TI's contest summit to
be held July 21-23 in Dallas where the final winners will be
announced.

Congratulations to the Fox-2 MPPT team!

[ANS thanks Tony AA2TX for the above information]

AMSAT Dayton Volunteers Thanked / Asked for Feedback

First and most important, I want to thank each of you for your
assistance at the 2013 Dayton Hamvention.

I'm thrilled with our presence at Dayton this year. In my opinion,
it went well because of the efforts of the 40+ volunteers who
assisted in so many different ways. You made a difference.

As I'm wrapping up my Dayton notes, I'm looking for suggestions.
How can AMSAT make our presence next year at Dayton more effective?

Was there anything we did that made things more difficult for the
hams who stopped at the booth?

What can we do to attract more potential members and communicate the
excitement we feel about building, launching, and operating
satellites?

Thanks again for all of your help. It was truly a privilege working
with you!

73,Steve N9IP

Contact Dave with your feedback - seb at wintek dot com

[ANS thanks Steve N9IP for the above information]

AMSAT Field Day 2013 - One More Time

Every year AMSAT promotes a satellite version of Field Day during the ARRL annual operating event which is held on the 4^th weekend in June. This year Field Day will take place from 1800 UTC on Saturday June 22, 2013 through 2100 UTC on Sunday June 23, 2013.

SaudiSat-Oscar-50 will be the only operational FM transponder satellite this year. If you are considering only FM voice operating for your AMSAT Field Day focus the single uplink/downlink channel will be extremely challenging. As in prior years, this intense congestion on FM LEO satellites drives the limitation in the rules allowing their use to one-QSO-per-FM-satellite. This includes the International Space Station. You will be allowed one QSO if the ISS is operating Voice. You will also be allowed one digital QSO with the ISS or any other digital, non-store-and-forward, packet satellite (if operational).

If you have worked the satellites on Field Day in recent years, you may have noticed a lot of good contacts can be made on the linear transponder satellites including VO-52, FO-29, and AO-7. During Field Day the transponders come alive like 20 meters on a weekend. The transponders on these satellites will support multiple simultaneous SSB or CW contacts.

The AMSAT Field Day 2013 event is open to all Amateur Radio operators. Amateurs are to use the exchange as specified in ARRL rules for Field Day. The AMSAT competition is to encourage the use of all amateur satellites, both analog and digital.

For the complete listing of the AMSAT Field Day Rules please refer to the documents posted on-line at:

http://www.amsatnet.com/2013fd.docx

http://www.amsatnet.com/2013fd.pdf

[ANS thanks AMSAT Director Contests and Awards, Bruce Paige, KK5DO for the above information]

Wilse Morgan WX7P (ex-KL7CQ) SK

Wilse Morgan, WX7P (formerly KL7CQ) passed away June 13 in Rice, Washington. He is survived by his wife, Gimmie AL7LB.

An ARRL Life Member, Wilse was an Assistant Section Manager for Eastern Washington and was very active on satellites, PSK31, DXing and contesting. In 2009 he was inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

During his 20 year tenure in Alaska as KL7CQ, he taught courses in Amateur Radio at the University of Alaska and at Anchorage Community College, graduating more than 800 licensed hams. As a Volunteer Examiner, Wilse was involved in the very first VEC exam in the nation and was the first VE certified by the local FCC office in Anchorage.

For more information
http://www.arrl.org/news/view/wilse-morgan-wx7p-ex-kl7cq-sk
http://www.sdxa.org/

http://www.sdxa.org/?p=3321

[ANS thanks AMSAT The ARRL and Patrick, WD9EWK/VA7EWK for the above information]

ARISS News

Succesful Contacts

+ A Succesful contact was completed with Belarus State Universtity, Minsk, Republic of Belarus.
Contact began 2013-06-04 21:00 and lasted about 9 minutes and 30 seconds. Contact was direct.

+ A succssful contact was completed with participants at Astronomy Camp, Tucson, AZ and Christopher J. Cassidy, KF5KDR, on 08 June. The event began at 19:55 UTC. The duration of the contact was approximately 9 minutes and 30 seconds. The contact was telebridged between NA1SS and VK4KHZ. The contact was audible over portions of Australia and adjacent areas. The contact was conducted in English.

Astronomy Camp is a week-long residential program held at Kitt Peak National Observatory and the Catalina Observatories near Tucson, Arizona. Several thousand teenagers from 49 states and 20 countries have attended the program since 1988, participating in an informal education program involving hands-on activities in astronomy and related subjects. The camp also operates workshops for adult leaders in Girl Scouts, USA.

The ARISS contact dovetails well with the camp's projects involving radio astronomy. The students engage in experiments with electromagnetic energy, construct crystal radios, and tour the radio telescope facilities at Kitt Peak, including climbing into the antenna structure.

Upcoming Contacts

Liceo Scientifico Galileo Galilei, Catania, Italy, telebridge via VK4KHZ
Contact is a go for: Sat 2013-06-22 14:57:26 UTC 41 deg

ARISS is requesting listener reports for the above contacts. Due to issues with the Kenwood radio that are not fully understood at present, the Ericsson radio is going to be used for these contacts. ARISS thanks everyone in advance for their assistance.

Current occupants of the ISS include
Exp. 35/36 on orbit
Pavel Vinogradov RV3BS
Aleksandr Misurkin
Christopher J. Cassidy KF5KDR

Exp. 36/37 on orbit
Fyodor Yurchikhin RN3FI
Karen L. Nyberg
Luca Parmitano KF5KDP

Total number of ARISS ISS to earth school events is 823.
Each school counts as 1 event.
Total number of ARISS ISS to earth school contacts is 806.

Each contact may have multiple schools sharing the same time slot.
Total number of ARISS supported terrestrial contacts is 44.

A complete year by year breakdown of the contacts may be found in
the file.
http://www.amsat.org/amsat/ariss/news/arissnews.rtf

[ANS thanks ARISS, Dave AA4KN, and Charlie AJ9N, for the above
information]

Satellite Shorts From All Over

+ APRS Messenger Android app now released
  http://tinyurl.com/l2tes3v

+ World QRP Day Monday 17 June

  Monday 17 June, is World QRP Day. Switch off the amplifier, turn
  down the power on your rig and try QRP power. How many kilometres
  per watt can you achieve. You will be amazed at what you can
  achieve with QRP. Best is, aim an antenna skyward and connect via
  a satellite using 5 watts or less.

+ According to Frank, K4FEG, Look for AO-7 to be in Mode "B" the
  entire duration of Field Day.

/EX

In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership in the
President's Club. Members of the President's Club, as sustaining
donors to AMSAT Project Funds, will be eligible to receive addi-
tional benefits. Application forms are available from the AMSAT
Office.

Primary and secondary school students are eligible for membership
at one-half the standard yearly rate. Post-secondary school students
enrolled in at least half time status shall be eligible for the stu-
dent rate for a maximum of 6 post-secondary years in this status.
Contact Martha at the AMSAT Office for additional student membership
information.

73,
This week's ANS Editor,
EMike McCardel, KC8YLD
kc8yld at amsat dot org